Calcoin News

Official Publication of the

California State Numismatic Association

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Volume 7, Number 5

SEPTEMBER, 1953

13th Semi-Annual CSNA Convention L. A. --- Oct. 22-25

"The CSNA convention in Los Angeles Oct. 22-25 is going to be the best yet, if cooperation will make it so," says George Bennett, general chairman.

Bennett, president of the Los Angeles Coin Club, states that all coin clubs in the Los Angeles area are participating in convention plans and arrangements.

"The Mayfair Hotel, 1256 W. Seventh St., offers every convenience we could ask for in a convention," Bennett believes. "Located conveniently, both to downtown Los Angeles and the famed Wilshire district, it offers visitors a wonderful opportunity to see Los Angeles at its best. We hope to entertain the biggest crowd ever to attend a CSNA convention."

Committee assignments announced by Bennett include: General chairman, George Bennett; assistant chairman, John Yribarne; registration, R. G. McArthur; exhibits, Robert Williams.

Bourse, Joe Block and Lloyd Nelson; awards, John E. Ohls; auction, Leo Young and Earl A. Parker; numismatic program, "The Classical Collectors"; reception, Mrs. Grace Brainard and Mrs. Thelma Case.

Publicity, James Miladin; entertainment, Herb Bergen and Karl Brainard; ladies' party, Mrs. Grace Brainard, Mrs. Thelma Case, Mrs. Harry Davidson, and Mrs. R. Fulks; security, Col. J. E. Whitney; sergeant-at-arms, Rudy Gjurovich.

General assignments include William Fanning, Los Angeles Coin Club; Mr. Lewis, San Fernando Coin Club; Abel Sampson, Long Beach Coin Club; Max Wedertz, Bay Cities Coin Club; and Jay Dare, Los Angeles Coin Club.

COINS BURGLARIZED

Rare coins amounting to $50,000 face value with a numismatic value estimated at about $225,000 were burglarized from the residence of Herbert Feinberg, 1164 Marshall Blvd., San Bernardino, on the night of Aug. 21.

ANA Conventionotes

Displays were highlighted by three outstanding exhibits, namely, the Eliasberg collection, the collection of U. S. Currency shown by Mr. Philpott, and the display of Mexican coins brought up for display by the Sociedad Numismatica de Mexico. The only display award taken by a Californian was the first award for Orders and Decorations by Mrs. Anna M. Panosh of San Diego.

Awards presented included National Coin Week awards to the San Bernardino County Coin Club and Bryan Burke of San Bernardino, and the Heath Literary award to Dr. Ray H. Wilson of San Diego; the awards being accepted by proxy by Fred Draper and Leonel C. Panosh, respectively.

Among resolutions adopted at the convention was one presented by the California delegation, to endorse the movement by CSNA and other California organizations to sponsor the issuance of a half dollar to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the "S" mint.

Chris Petersen of Chehalis, Wash., and Glenn Smedley of Chicago (both CSNA members) were new members elected to the Board. Lew Panosh of San Diego was elected first vice-president. Dr. J. Hewitt Judd of Omaha was elected president. All other officers were re-elected.

Earl Parker moved into fast company when he appeared on the TV program with that dean of numismatics, B. Max Mehl.

California was well represented on the election committee by Jack Ogilvie as chairman, and Dr. N. A. Bowers and John Yribarne.

Attendance at the convention ran well over 400. Californians included Dr. N. A. Bowers, Earl Parker, William F. Smith and Mrs. Smith, Edward Fogler, Edward Gans, Kenny and Ruby Lee, Abe and Molly Kosoff and son Steve, Abner Kreisberg, Jack Ogilvie, and Lew and Anna Merle Panosh. Most of the out-of-state CSNA members also were present.

The 1954 convention was awarded to Cleveland and the 1955 meeting to Omaha.

Who's Who In California Numismatics

Roy Hill

Dubbed "The Flying Finn" by fellow collectors, Roy Hill was born in Oakland Aug. 4, 1908, of Finnish parents. His Finnish ancestry accounts for his interest in Finnish coins and stamps. Roy is well known in numismatic and philatelic circles in California and other parts of the country because he attends meetings of many clubs and is active in several of them.

He attended public schools in Oakland, Seattle, Wash., and Magyer, Ore., and earned his high school diploma as salutatorian of the Class of 1927 at Live Oak Union High School, Live Oak, Calif.

Returning to his native Oakland in July, 1927, he was employed by the Continental Music Co., San Francisco, where he worked until April, 1943. Since then he has worked in automotive parts. Beginning Aug. 1, 1950, he works at the California Department of Motor Vehicles, handling vehicle registration.

He became interested in stamps before leaving school. His acquaintance with the late Ernest R. Wernstrom as a result of joining a precancel stamp club, the Golden Gate Precancel Society, in 1929, eventually brought him into contact with Pacific Coast Numismatic Society activities. Wernstrom and the late Harvey L. Hansen were PCNS leaders at that time. He joined the PCNS Jan. 31, 1931, which makes him an "old-timer" among the present membership.

In October, 1933, he was active in the Far Western Numismatic Conference, held in San Francisco. Oct. 10, 1934, marked the beginning of another activity when, under the guidance of Wernstrom, the Junior Coin Collectors of San Francisco was organized. Hill assisted Wernstrom in directing the club, and upon the latter's death in January, 1938, became the adviser. Under his leadership, this group of youths participated in several hobby shows in the Bay Area, and the big show, "Coin City", was conceived as the coin section for the National Hobby Show on Treasure Island from May to September, 1940. Junior activities were interrupted by the war, then Roy organized East Bay and San Mateo County junior organizations.

Roy joined the ANA in 1934 (Membership No. 4455) and the ANA in 1946. The California State Numismatic Association numbers him among its founding members (he is No. 7). He attended the formal organization meeting in Santa Barbara Feb. 22, 1947, and has attended all CSNA semi-annual conventions. In addition to PCNS, other local club affiliations are East Bay Coin Club (No. 7), San Jose Coin Club (No. 8), San Diego Numismatic Society (No. 36), Redwood Empire Coin Club (No. 36), and Canadian Numismatic Association (No. 45).

His nickname, "The Flying Finn" dates from Golden Gate Precancel

Society days when, with Wernstrom, he attended many meetings throughout the state to promote interest in precancel stamps. He edited a monthly bulletin for the GGPS from 1933 to 1939, gaining experience for the PCNS "Numismatic Bulletin", which he edited from 1948 to 1950.

Roy is known to have one of the most complete, by dates, collections of the coins of Finland; coins of the "S" mint, which in 1954 marks its centennial of operation; a good numismatic and Californiana library; and a selection of coins and other numismatic items that make for public-interest displays. Among these are ancient coins, encased postage stamps, postage currency, coin cards, coins of Greenland, Canada, and Hawaii, and literature, pictures, and documents having to do with mints.

He has been an officer in many stamp clubs. He is past president of the Northern California Council of Philatelic Societies (1943) and will be publicity director for the California Collectors Club (he is charter member No. 8) for the convention of the American Philatelic Society in San Francisco September, 1954. He did a similar task for the American Numismatic Association convention in San Francisco in 1953, and also was exhibits chairman.

He was vice-president of the PCNS twice, was president in 1949, and is now recording secretary. The East Bay Coin Club and the San Jose Coin Club have found him to be a willing worker. He always is active in the San Jose club's coin booth at the Santa Clara County Fair. He was exhibits chairman for CSNA conventions in San Jose, 1949; Oakland, 1950; and Santa Rosa, 1952.

He hasn't had time, with so many coin and stamp activities, to get married, but he has found plenty of time to travel. He has made eight transcontinental trips in the last 12 years, and kids fellow members of the Scandinavian Collectors Club, New York City, that he comes to New York to pay his modest membership fee of $1.

His travels have taken him on trips, personally guided by officials, through the U. S. mints at San Francisco, Denver, and Philadelphia; the Bureau of Printing and Engraving in Washington, D.C.; the Royal Canadian Mint in Ottawa; and the Federal Reserve Bank in New York. The only two places he has tried but failed to get into are the Canadian Bank Note Co. in Ottawa and the U. S. Assay Office in New York. With Roy, acquiring coins comes secondary to numismatic trips.

Roy would like to see the CSNA develop its coin exhibits along lines used by successful stamp shows, having a real prospectus as an invitation to collectors to exhibit under a set of rules with competitive groupings adapted to the coin field, such as he outlined in the March, 1950, **Calcoin News.** He feels that good exhibits are good public relations.

Bill and Ova Smith Injured in Accident

As the result of a head-on automobile collision, Bill and Ova Smith, proprietors of the Eureka Coin Shop, San Francisco, were hospitalized in El Dorado, Ark. Details of injuries were unknown at press time, other than that Bill suffered a broken leg.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith had attended the ANA convention in Dallas, and were enroute to Arkansas points for visits with relatives of Mrs. Smith.

Satisfactory progress is reported, and the Smiths are expected back in San Francisco by Sept. 20.

Lecture Set 13 of the ANA visual slides entitled "Bronze Coins of the Roman Emperors" is dedicated to our own Michael P. Carey of Los Angeles.

CALCOIN NEWS

Official Publication of the
California State Numismatic Association

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California Club News, Views, and Whos

CAPITOL CITY COIN CLUB, Sacramento.—The Capitol City Coin Club exhibited coins at the California State Fair, Sept. 3-13.

Virgil E. Whitcomb was in charge of arrangements. He exhibited U. S. coins and currency and crowns of the world. Other exhibitors were Glenn Wallace, Dan Jacobsen, and Earl E. Landau, who displayed ancients, modern new issues, oddities in gold, etc.

The Capitol City Coin Club has been inactive so far as monthly meetings go, but has always managed to put on a good show at the fair.

—Roy Hill,
Fair Reporter.

* * *

EAST BAY COIN CLUB. — The Aug. 14 meeting of the East Bay Coin Club, Oakland, was held at Jenny Lind Hall. Gilbert Eaton, president, welcomed 47 members and eight guests.

In the absence of Ossie Balbini, R. G. McArthur was in charge of the exhibits. Displays, outlined by brief talks, were made by the following:

Kenneth Allen, large United States currency 1862 - 1923 and fractional currency, Civil War period; Clifford Bloom, Portugal ½ Joe or 6400 reis gold piece of Prince John, 1805; Frank Galvin, a new book entitled "Coinometry".

Roy Hill, "S" Mint coins, first year quarter 1855; first year silver dollar 1859; R. G. McArthur, four unidentified 16th century copper coins; Arnold Rosing, Prussia, Baden, Bavaria and Hamburg proof 3-marks dated 1908 and a New Zealand commemorative crown, 1949; Tom Tuohey, S. Rhodesian crown, 1953, proof, Cecil Rhodes centennial.

The speaker of the evening was Ross P. Buell, superintendent of the United States mint in San Francisco. Mr. Buell's talk on the workings of the mint was most interesting. He extended an invitation to club members to visit the mint.

Applications for membership were received from the following: C. E. Goodrich, 2865 E. 16th Street, Oakland; Mrs. C. E. Goodrich, 2865 E. 16th Street, Oakland; Mrs. Lulie V. Nall, 1926 6th Avenue, Oakland; Clarence E. Werdahl, 224 17th Street, Oakland; and Roy Wharton, 422 49th Street, Oakland.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Godbey, charter members, presented two books to the club library: **Numismatic Scrapbook** and **Roman Imperial Coins**, by Zander H. Klawans.

* * *

At the July 10 meeting, the presiding officer was our past president, A. W. Ritchie. Our president, Gilbert Eaton, is recovering from pneumonia; our vice-president, Frederick Monteagle, is on vacation; our junior past president, Stanley Hawley, substituted for our secretary, Mrs. Thelma Fieberling, who was out of town for a few days.

Myron Mountjoy, treasurer, was absent due to illness. It is the hope of officers and members of the club that his illness is not serious and that both he and Mr. Eaton soon will be fully recovered.

Edward Fogler gave a brief report on the coming ANA and promised more information at the August meeting.

Walter Ritchie directed our attention to the receipt of another monograph from the American Numismatic Society on the subject of counterfeiting in early New York.

Exhibits outlined by brief talks were made by Clifford H. Bloom, Edward Fogler, Frank X. Galvin, Rudy Gjurovich, Stanley Hawley, Roy Hill, C. V. Kappen, R. G. McArthur, E. A. Parker, Daniel J. Redmond, and Arnold Rosing.

The program of the evening was a "Coin Bee", with questions prepared by Ed Fogler and Roy Hill. Ken Allen was quizmaster. Contestants were chosen by lot, with those giving correct answers being given repeat opportunities. This entertaining "spell-down" was won by Steve Short, first; Al Smith, second; and Tom Tuohey, third.

Our genial auctioneer, Earl Parker, efficiently disposed of 38 lots. Our register was signed by 40 members and 10 guests. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m., after which

coffee and sandwiches were served by Pearl Holm and Toni Connell.

—Thelma Fieberling,
Recording Secretary.

* * *

ORANGE COUNTY COIN CLUB. The 181st regular monthly meeting of the Orange County Coin Club was held July 22 at Brea, with President John Haldiman presiding over an attendance of 70 members and 13 guests. Three of these guests became members of the club.

Maurice Jensen, recently from Wisconsin, displayed an unusual set of gold quarter eagles from the Dahlonega mint. Lincoln Higgie, Jr., also a visitor from Wisconsin, likewise exhibited a display of various coins from his collection.

Jack Ogilvie, just returned from a tour of duty for the State Department in Germany, spoke briefly on coinage in occupied East and West Germany.

Adolph Larson Jr. introduced the speaker, S. M. Koeppel, Los Angeles coin dealer and a club member of long standing. The subject of his talk was "U. S. Currency." Commencing with Continental currency, the first to be issued in America, he traced the history of currency down to the present time. Many specimens of all the types of currency used were displayed by him. These included notes of the First Bank of the United States, Private Bank Notes, and early issues of regular U. S. Currency.

The speaker also showed slides furnished by the ANA on U. S. currency. After his talk he generously offered to sell crisp dollar bills carrying the war-time overprint "HAWAII" to each junior collector of the club for half price (50 cents). Needless to say, this offer was quickly accepted by 20 customers — nine of whom were well over the junior age limit. Joe Steele conducted the auction.

* * *

The 180th regular club meeting was held at Brea June 24 at 7:30 p.m., with an attendance of 81 members and guests. President Haldiman presided.

After the junior auction and business meeting, Program Chairman Harry Davidson introduced Charles L. Ruby who gave an interesting and instructive talk on "U. S. Half Cents." In his opening remarks he reminded his hearers that when half cents were current many things could be bought with a half cent; even half cent postage stamps were in use. With the passing of the half cent coin the smallest purchase rose to a penny.

In his opinion, there are many stories behind these half cent coins which are greatly prized today by collectors. Although many were issued during the early years of the mint, there are not many of these issues to be found today. In fact, some are so scarce that they have become rarities of the first order. As time goes on, he said, they will be in greater and greater demand.

The rarest of all, the issue of 1796, may not exceed 25 in existence. Considering that there are two varieties of this date, there cannot be many collections which can show both. He also stated that the 1797 issue with the lettered edge is another great rarity because there are not more than 15 of these known.

The issues of later years, he said, are more common and can be had in better condition. This does not include those years in which only proof coins were struck. The last year when half cents were issued was 1857. Although 35,180 of these were struck, according to the mint record, only about 10,000 remain in collectors' hands today.

Ruby had on display his complete collection of half cents which includes all dates and die varieties listed by Gilbert except one. This collection is probably the finest held on the Pacific Coast. The display was a rare treat for everyone present, and the talk by its owner greatly stimulated the interest in this fractional coin whose passing marks the end of the early economic era of this country. A rousing vote of thanks was passed for the fine program.

Following this program and the recess for refreshments, Joe Steele conducted the usual successful auction of members' coin offerings.

—Herb Bergen,
Secretary.

PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. — Coins of Central and South America were featured at the 450th meeting of the society Aug. 26. Seven visitors and 27 members attended the meeting at the Palace Hotel.

The introduction of guests was followed by presentation of the following exhibits: Ken P. Allen, early large size U. S. notes; Clifford H. Bloom, Spanish 2-scudo gold, 1812; George Garner, Russian gold pieces of Elizabeth II, Peter I and Alexander III; Sidney Haas, 72 selected coins of Central and South America, mostly dollar size, from the time of Ferdinand and Isabella.

Roy Hill, dollar-size coins, paper money, and coin cards from "South of the Border" and an oriental souvenir sword made of coins; F. E. Howard, Central and South American pieces; L. G. Lodge, Mexico 5-centavos, 1878, and Argentina 1-peso, 1897; Kurt E. Loret, coins of early Peru and art pieces made from silver coins in Peru.

John E. Ohls, South American crowns and gold pieces; Arnold H. Rosing, U. S. Indian head eagles, British proof sets of 1950, and selected Russian gold and silver coins; Nicholas A. Slobodchikoff, Mongol (Yuan dynasty) coin, value of which is expressed in terms of paper money; Al Smith, English sets of 1950 and 1953, and Canadian coins, 1953; Paul D. Snedaker, minor South American issues.

Edward Gans, now of Berkeley, will speak at the Oct. 28 (last Wednesday of the month) meeting on the subject of Ancient Coins.

* * *

At the July 29 meeting, attended by 27 members and 11 guests, National Coin Week certificates were awarded Clifford H. Bloom, Roy Hill, Kurt E. Loret, John E. Ohls, and Milton C. Strauch. L. G. Lodge presided.

Exhibits: Clifford H. Bloom, Portugal, 6400 reis gold coin, 1805; Nathan A. Bowers, U. S. silver dollars, with historical notes; H. F. Bowker, privately bound volume of first three years of PCNS **Numismatic Bulletin** and a book of plates illustrating Japanese coins; Rudy Gjurovich, 1939 and 1942 U. S. proof sets.

Roy Hill, small Greek bronze from Ephesus, circa 305-288 B.C.; Tom K. Holl, clipping concerning Nazi counterfeit U. S. paper money; A. G. K. Jakobsen, 1853 dime, undersize, no milling and thick rim, and an "S" mint silver bar, 10.04 ounces, 999.75 fine; L. G. Lodge, uncirculated U. S. cents.

Kurt E. Loret, U. S. transportation tokens; John E. Ohls, U. S. commemorative gold coins; Robert C. Patterson, U. S. $5 note; David L. Redfield, dollar and quarter U. S. type sets; Arnold Rosing, proof coins of Bavaria and Saxony; Paul D. Snedaker, U. S. coins and tokens; Thomas Twohey, 1953 Southern Rhodesia crown in proof.

—Roy Hill,
Recording Secretary.

* * *

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY COIN CLUB. — The 62nd meeting of the club was held Aug. 16 at the home of the Colvers in the beautiful San Dimas Canyon.

When the club members and their families entered the beautiful forest in the canyon they were greeted by attractively set tables. A large pot of coffee was already prepared and cold drinks were available.

Forty-two persons attended. The U. S. Forest Service demonstrated modern methods of combating forest fires. The rangers displayed a modern pumper and other equipment.

After the demonstration, a short meeting was held, followed by the door prize drawing. The usual auction was held. Each person who bought a ticket was awarded a 1953 set of pennies in keeping with the new policy.

* * *

The July meeting was called to order by O. L. Arnold.

A discussion of the annual meeting in the form of a picnic was carried on and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Colver invited the club to be their guests for the picnic.

Two new members were admitted. The club welcomes Dick Fleming and Jim Hughes.

The program consisted of a discussion of coins. Each member

brought a coin to show and discuss. The highlights were as follows:

Brown, crowns of Mexico; Colver, crowns of England; Dr. C. L. Emmons, half dimes; Haydon, Peace Dollars; Coops, coins of Edward VIII; Draper, star notes; Blue, freak Indian head cents; Yribarne, 1913 liberty nickel; Burke, Chinese exchange; Arnold, currency; Howard Smith told of his experiences in being conducted through the mints.

A new door prize system was introduced to the members. Each person who purchases a ticket will be given a coin, and in addition there will be the usual drawings.

—A. B. Coon,
Secretary.

* * *

SAN DIEGO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. — The 195th meeting was held Aug. 3, 1953, at the YMCA, 1115 8th Ave. Arthur Vigneault presided with 49 members and guests present.

Four new members were welcomed into the Society: Mrs. Mark Lowthian, Miss Priscilla Andrews, Paul P. Goda, and Louis Fischer.

Guests present were F. C. Powell of Portland, Ore., and Mr. and Mrs. Louis Fischer of the Convair Coin Club of San Diego.

Dr. Ray H. Wilson presented his program, "Slides on the American Nickel." Dr. Wilson made all of the slides himself and he is to be complimented on his fine work. His remarks along with his slides were educational and interesting.

A social hour followed with refreshments served by Mr. and Mrs. Cooper and their son.

* * *

The 194th meeting of the society was held at our new meeting place—the YMCA, 1115 8th Ave., San Diego, July 6, 1953. Due to vacations and to the heat, we had only 38 members and guests present.

The following members had displays at the San Diego County Fair and they all made reports on the fair: Dr. Bruce L. Wallace, Foreign Crowns (First Prize in the Foreign Division); Atwood MacDonald, Denver type set (First Prize in U. S. coins); Leonel C. Panosh, Odd and Curious Money (First Prize in Miscellaneous Div.); Tom Ward, Ancient Roman (First Prize in Ancient Div.); Arthur Vigneault, Commemorative half dollars (Second Prize in U. S. Div.); Clive Foss, British coins (Second Prize in Foreign Div.); Francis S. Jones, Type set of Dollars (Third Prize in U. S. Div.).

The following members had displays: Lew Panosh, Arthur Vigneault, Henry Woods, Tom Ward, Clive Foss, Abe Beck, Dr. Bruce Wallace, Paul Boltz, and Francis S. Jones.

—Francis S. Jones,
Secretary.

* * *

SAN JOSE COIN CLUB. — Once again San Jose and Santa Clara County were made coin-conscious by the unusual exhibits and the week-long program of coin talks at the Santa Clara County Fair (California's second largest), San Jose, Sept. 14-20.

Activities began Sept. 14 with the regular monthly meeting held at the exhibit booth. Prof. C. V. Kappen, former SJCC president, spoke before a gala crowd on "What it Means to Be a Coin Collector". Each night of the fair there was a short talk and special exhibit.

Douglas M. Perham, club president, spoke on "Pirate Money and Pieces of Eight" and "California Pioneer Gold". George F. Hodges, former SJCC president, and Austen Warburton, the club's lawyer member, spoke on "Ancient Times" and on "Biblical Coins". Roy Hill, past-president of the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society, gave the story of "The San Francisco Mint".

Friday was dedicated to the "Numismatists of Tomorrow". Under direction of Austen Warburton, our young collectors, including Tom Boyce, John C. Serpa and Richard Reynolds, participated.

Matinee time was not forgotten, and at 2:30 p.m. daily, Rudy Gjurovich, "King of Koin Kollectors," put on a show. Other members participating were Mrs. A. M. Kambish, Vincent Guarnera, and William Weber. Whipple Y. Chester received the club's thanks for publicity in the **San Jose Mercury** and **News.**

—Roy Hill.

Club Secretaries:

Prof. C. V. Kappen has resumed editorship of Calcoin News. Club reports and activities should now be mailed to him at 2201 Peachtree Lane, San Jose, 26.

THE COINS OF KOREA

By ALAN D. CRAIG

The fifth in a series of articles. All rights reserved. Address comments to the author at Box 72, Dockweiler P.O., Los Angeles 7, California.

SECTION IV
THE LATER CAST COINAGES

In 1633 (11th year of King In Jo) the first issue of that type which later entered into coinage by the hundreds of thousands appeared. It is said that first issue was used only near the city of Kaie Sung where it was manufactured (Kaie Sung, scene of one-time truce negotiations, was then a flourishing commercial center). The government had established a Famine Relief Office to provide for storing of crops. That office cast this issue with the inscription **Sang Pyung Tong Po** (Stabilized Currency). Sang Pyung Tong Po is from the name Sang Pyung Chung—"Always-Even Office", deriven from its function of storing crops of fruitful years for use in times of hardship. This first of the Sang-Pyung pieces bore no reverse inscriptions as did the following issues.

SANG PYUNG TONG PO
(Stabilized Currency)*
1633

LCC #1 scarce 21 mm.

All coins in this section are with printed style characters. Obverses read

1
4 3
2

In 1651 (2nd year of King Hio Chong), a precedent-setting decree was issued by which the people were prohibited to use cloth as money. One political party was opposed to coinages and since the new law had resulted in counterfeiting and the introduction of Chinese Liao Tung coins, there was enough public demand to result in the revocation of the law of 1651 in 1656. Coins were decreed illegal with cloth and rice being elevated to the position of sole medium of exchange. The popularity of coins had spread to such an extent, however, that an uproar was created in the other direction. People continued to use metallic money illegally, and a few years later the monetary system was reinstated.

Before getting into detail on **Yopchon** issues (Yopchon was the colloquial name for Sang Pyung Tong Po pieces), two giant-size items of this period are illustrated. The photographed specimens have been used as **coin charms** (this will be explained separately). Their date of mintage is probably between 1678 and 1700. This attribution is entirely circumstantial. Since mint markings did not appear until post-1678 and since other issues of identical size immediately preceded chronologically, basis is formed for a supposition which remains to be proven correct.

(See next page)

(Above) **CHO SUN TONG PO**
Value of 1 Chon (decuple-value)
1678-1700
Board of Revenue mint.

LCC #2 rare 48½ mm.

(Below) **SANG PYUNG TONG PO**
Value "ten" (same as above)
1678-1700
Board of Revenue mint.

LCC #3 rare 48½ mm.

*"Up-to-date Treasure" will henceforth be translated as **currency**; the 'up-to-date' translation.

The pressing necessity for more coins to circulate prompted the government in 1678 to commission seven other agencies in coinage-casting besides the Sang Pyung Chung. A scale of monetary values was established. Regardless of size, each piece was 1 **Mun.** 100 Mun equaled 1 **Yang** and 10 Yang equaled 1 **Hwan.**

The new coining agencies with the advent of the original seven began to include reverse markings on the coinage. Reverse markings of Yopchon may be found as follows:

Mint Mark

Furnace Group

Mint Mark

Furnace Die

Index No. of issue

Mint Mark

Date In ' Sexagenary Cycle

Branch of mint where executed

Except for the mint marks remaining at the top or occasionally top with bottom, the other characters change places. Thus from what is shown so far we already have quite a number of possible combinations. The characters on the sides and bottom did not indicate that given coins were individually of larger value. This idea got started as a result of the reduction of the original sizes and consequent over-valuing of large pieces. Although it is feebly possible that large sizes were made with "2-value" in mind, no authentic record has been found to substantiate this. In further repudation of this is the fact that later issues of five and hundred-value coins bore an extra character for indication of the extra value. Mint marks were represented by the first character abbreviated from the full name of the minting agency. During later issues other than the first character from an agency's name was chosen. The Choen Chun Township, for instance, issued coins bearing both 保 (Choen) and 川 (Chun).

The furnace-group and furnace markings are a fascinating sidelight in the study of these coinages. In latter coinages, furnaces and furnace-groups were nearly always represented by a high-flown symbolical character. The source of choice was either from quotations in the **Chun Ja Moen**; the Chinese "Thousand-Character Classic" or from the **Oh Hong**; an oriental grouping of "the five ntural elements". The **Oh Hong**" consists of:

木 火 土 金 水

Mok Hwa Toa Kum Su
(wood) (fire) (earth) (metal) (water)

The first four quatrains from the Thousand-Character Classic are as follows:

天地元黃
宇宙洪荒
日月盈昃
辰宿列張

IV	III	II	I
13	9	5	1
14	10	6	2
15	11	7	3
16	12	8	4

(Reading is vertically from right to left.)

In transposing this order to give a literal translation, we have:

I
Heaven
Earth
Primeval Black
and Yellow

II
Space
Time
Flood
Desolation

III
Sun
Moon
Waxed
Waned

IV
Starry
Heavens
Scattered
and Arranged

A further translation into something of an occidental line of thinking might go:

When Heaven and Earth were in primeval gloom;
From space and time in flood and desolation,
Engendered Sun—and waxing-waning moon;
And scattered forth the stars into relation . . .

Not unlike the biblical story of genesis, the classic continues in its poetical course to say "clouds rise", "rain falls", "rice 'harvests' ", "winter goes", "summer comes" and so forth. Thus the Koreans, when adopting an index number for furnace-groups in their mints, gave allusion to a motto: a quasi-religious motto from a series in neat categorical order. Here is mechanical A-B-C-D cataloguing with the gravity and decorum of religious belief and art-for-art's-sake acsthetics: here represented were many concepts of the "In God We Trust" on coinages of our United States.

Quotations from the Thousand-Character Classic on Yopchon coinages number only up to the 44th character. The reason for some usually missing in between in a given series is apparent — to choose "flood" or "desolation" would of course be an ill-omen. There are some but not many "bad-word" quotes to be found.

In later years the largest and oldest mints would add a mark for the individual die such as a dot, circle, double-circle, curve, etc., and occasionally a numeral. (Some of these marks are representations of secondary phases of the Taie Kuk.*) In the case of small mints or when the large mints themselves were small, ordinary numerals were customary for furnace-group or furnace marks instead of characters from the literary

*See MC #7 for explanation of Taie Kuk symbol.

sources. On top of all this, placement of the furnace mark to the right or left side of the coin's reverse often indicated the furnace's geographical location within the mint's furnace-group. Occasionally a numeral would stand as index number in a **series of issues** from a given mint. Sometimes dates in the Chinese Sexagenary Cycle were indicated, and there are cases in which one of the Thousand-Character Classic or 5-Element characters were chosen as a mint's mark. The Bank of Korea once possessed 3,137 different specimens of the Sang Pyung Yopchon pieces. It is unnecessary to comment upon the amount of ramification and confusion amassed in 205 years of issue from what concluded as a total of about sixty mints!

In the planning of the late Yopchon issues, the master die-carver executed a sample of the coin-to-be in soft wood for the inspection of the agency planning to manufacture it. If satisfactory, a few other 'proof' specimens were cast in copper and in rare instances in pewter or silver. When the manufacturer inspected the product and was satisfied, a mat shed (as described in Section II) was hoisted and minting proceeded. The often-increased size of proof Yopchon pieces attests probably to the salesmanship of master engravers. ("Proof" in this context refers to singularly and carefully-made specimens with high points of the coin smooth and highly polished).

Large size (30-32 mm.), 1678-1800. Early issue from Urh Yung Chung Military Office's mint. It is not known whether the numeral two (below) signifies the second consecutive issue or the second furnace.

Medium size (27-29 mm.), 1800-1850. Fifth furnace, third furnace-group, Urh Yung Chung military mint.

Small size (24-26 mm.), post-1850. First furnace, 2nd furnace-group, Kiun Yuk Chung (Land Tax Dep't., Board of Revenue). A proof of **larger-than-ordinary small size.**

Small size — late issue from Urh Yung Chung. From the "curve" furnace in the 2nd furnace-group. Proof of **ordinary size.**

Essay in wood — from the tenth furnace in the 2nd furnace group in the Hun Riun Doc Kam Military Division. Unique essay specimen representing this mold.

Korea's policy of delegating the responsibility of national coinages continued until 1883. In the beginnings of Yopchon issues, use of this money had been forbidden at trading posts in order to keep out foreign pieces. Yopchon was made with minute care and surveillance, but lack of true unity in the monetary system (such as quotations often differing for "local" and "out-of-district" coinages); crudeness, cheapness in manufacture, public unfamiliarity and slow communication and transportation could not preclude extensive counterfeiting (e.g., minting of coins without permit for individual benefit) as well as unauthorized provincial issues. Moreover, the fact that metallic money had finally become a fundamental need of the people made money-minting an ever-profitable enterprise. It became standard procedure for any governmental or other agency or office needing funds to secure a permit and cast an issue of coins. The minting of Yopchon soon grew into a torrent of coinage after coinage of different sizes, mints, groups, metals, markings, issues and quality. As time drew on it was found that the size of the coins could be encroached upon with impunity, so from about 1800 the pieces were reduced from an original weight-standard of approximately 147 grains per piece to the final result of a 70-grain miniature. Needless to say, the cost of living jumped as Korea's "Always-Even", "Stabilized" coins shrank.

Following is a list of mint marks found on Sang Pyung Tong Po Yopchon coppers. Excluding the first seven, only the marks of the mint and general sizes of coins therefrom are listed in this work. There is neither space nor possibility to list the thousands of minor variations.

This list has been compiled chiefly from the reference by M. Ichihara, one-time President of the Bank of Korea. Other references are partially in conflict with this and with each other as well in their attributions. It is believed that Ichihara's work — being the largest and having originated from Korea — is the most accurate, and on such account his work has been used as a nucleus in what is shown here.

It is unknown which of these markings represent private-issue or counterfeit items. The relative rarity of individual mint-marks, if any, has never been catalogued.

			Mark	Sizes	Thous. Char. Classic quotes
LCC #4	Ho Cho	Treas. Dep't., Board of Revenue	戶	lg., med., sm.	1-31
LCC #5	Urh Yung Chung	Largest Military Office	營	lg., med., sm.	1-20. Also 5-Element markings
LCC #6	Hun Riun Doe Kam	Oldest Military Division	訓	lg., med., sm.	1-20
LCC #7	Pyung Yang Kam Yung	Military Sta. in No. Korea	平	lg., med., sm.	1-10
LCC #8	Chon La Doe Kam Yung	Military Sta. in So. Korea	全	lg., med., sm.	1-25
LCC #9	Jin Hiul Chung	Charity Office in Seoul	賑	lg., med., sm.	none
LCC #10	Sa Bok Shi	Royal Mews Bureau	司	lg., med., sm.	none

Mints of subsequent origin:

LCC #11	The King's Royal Mint	忠	large
LCC #12	Biung Cho — The Board of War	兵	lg., med., sm.
LCC #13	King's Royal Mint under contract with Board of War	忠兵	med.
LCC #14	Bureau of Royal News — mark abbreviated (see LCC #10)	同	lg., sm.
LCC #15	Kong Cho — The Board of Public Works	工	lg., sm.
LCC #16	Chon La (LCC #8) under contract with Board of War	全兵	sm.
LCC #17	Pyung Yang (LCC #7) under contract with Board of War	平兵	sm.
LCC #18	Revenue Dep't., Board of Revenue	向	lg., sm.
LCC #19	Kiun Yuk Chung — Land Tax Dept., Board of Revenue	物	sm.
LCC #20	Sun Hei Chung — Rice & Clothing Charity Dep't., Board of Revenue	宣	lg., med., sm.
LCC #21	General Charity Dep't., Board of Revenue	惠	sm.
LCC #22	Mwo Bi Sa Military Division Quarters in Seoul	武	lg., sm.
LCC #23	Keum Wi Yung Military Division Quarters in Seoul	禁	lg., med., sm.
LCC #24	Kaie Sung Kwan Ri Yung Military Office	開	lg., med., sm.
LCC #25	Kaie Sung — Military Division Quarters in Seoul	摠	lg., med., sm.
LCC #26	Chong Yiung Chung Military Office	摠	lg., sm.
LCC #27	Tong Wi Yung General Military Office	統	lg., med., sm.
LCC #28	Kyung Sang Kam Yung General Military Office	尚	lg., med., sm.
LCC #29	General Mint of the Kiung Ki Kam Yung District	圻	lg., med., sm.
LCC #30	Kang Wha Doe Sim Yung Kang Wha Island	沁	sm.
LCC #31	General Mint of the Chun Chyong Province	圻	(unknown)
LCC #32	Branch Mint of the Chun Chyong Province in Seoul	京	lg., med., sm.
LCC #33	Ham Kyung Kam Yung District Mint	咸	lg., med., sm.
LCC #34	Hoang Hai Kam Yung Branch of the Gen. Mint	海	lg., med., sm.

LCC #35	Hoang Haie Doe Kam Yung The general (provincial) mint	黃	lg., sm.
LCC #36	General Mint of the Kang Ouen Doe Province	原	lg., med., sm.
LCC #37	Kang Won Doe Kam Yung (*) Township	江	lg., sm.
LCC #38	Yi Jun Township	利	sm.
LCC #39	Choen Chun Township	川	(unknown)
LCC #40	Choen Chun Township	春	(unknown)
LCC #41	Treasury Office, Song Doe Township	經	(unknown)
LCC #42	Treasury Office, Kiung Ri Chung Township	經	sm.
LCC #43	Chang Duk Koeng Township	昌	sm.
LCC #44	So Wi Chung Township	守	lg., sm.
LCC #45	Bi Biun Sa Township	備	lg., sm.
LCC #46	Jung Cho Chung Township	枌	lg., med., sm.
LCC #47	Unknown	水	med.
LCC #48	Unknown	脩	lg., sm.
LCC #49	Unknown	冏	med., sm.
LCC #50	Unknown	脩	lg.
LCC #51	Unknown	寘	lg.
LCC #52	Unknown	莆	sm. Possibly an abbreviation of LCC #45
LCC #53	Unknown	刹	
LCC #54	Unknown	就	
LCC #55	Unknown	泣	
LCC #56	Unknown	氓	
LCC #57	Unknown	原	

(*) Not to be confused with LCC #15; the Board of Public Works Mint.

From the Desk of the Secretary-Treasurer

NEW MEMBERS

573 Gans, Edward ..... 10 Rock Lane, Berkeley 10, Calif.
570 Godbey, Charles R. ..... 5528 E. 17th St., Oakland 21, Calif.
559 Ingram, David ..... 1148 Griswold St., Detroit, Mich.
574 Jones, Eldridge G. ..... 4428 19th St. N.E., Washington, D.C.
572 Justus, Max L. ..... 437 N. Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills, Calif.
569 Koch, Henry H. ..... 7918 State St., Huntington Park, Calif.
567 Leventhal, Mike ..... 13947 Hartsook, Sherman Oaks, Calif.
575 Maley, Joseph French ..... 600 Lenore Lane, Ft. Lyon Heights, Alexandria, Va.
576 Spence, Mrs. Esther G. ..... 1656 S. Stanley Ave., Los Angeles 19, Calif.
577 Spence, William H. ..... 1656 S. Stanley Ave., Los Angeles 19, Calif.
571 Warburton, Austen D. ..... 790 Locust St., Santa Clara, Calif.

ADDRESS CHANGES

506 Barrett, W. V. ..... 515 21st St., San Bernardino, Calif.
117 Bay Cities Coin Club, Roscoe L. Fulks, Secretary ..... 7706 Sepulveda, Van Nuys, Calif.
476 Coffing, Courtney L. ..... 324 Marsalis, Dallas, Tex.
341 Kappen, Charles V. ..... 2201 Peachtree Lane, San Jose 26, Calif.
488 Mills, Clipper E. ..... 1601 Van Ness Ave., Fresno, Calif.
163 Patterson, Robert C. ..... 288 Northgate Ave., Daly City 25, Calif.
478 Peyser, Arthur ..... 14800 Septo St., San Fernando, Calif.
97 Trout, Harry ..... 1022½ A St., San Diego 1, Calif.

RESIGNATIONS

199 Edwards, E. D. ..... P. O. Box 298, Hanford, Calif.
493 Smith, Alvin R. ..... 681 Jean St., Oakland 10, Calif.

HELP!

Mail addressed to the following members has been returned. Anyone knowing their present addresses, please notify the secretary.

149 Kallai, Mrs. Auguste ..... 7139 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles 46, Calif.
129 Lenker, John E. ..... 1550 Sylvan Blvd., Redlands, Calif.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

Cash on hand June 15, 1953		$770.23
Receipts:		
1953 dues	$ 52.00	
1954 dues	4.00	
1955-57 dues	6.00	62.00
Total Receipts		$832.23
Less Disbursements:		
Postage, supplies, etc.	$ 59.74	
Calcoin News	179.80	239.54
Cash on hand September 10, 1953		$592.69

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership as of June 15, 1953		375
Additions:		
Admitted	9	
Reinstated	1	10
Total		385
Losses:		
Resigned		2
Net membership as of September 10, 1953		383

Note: 346 members have paid 1953 dues.

R. G. McArthur, Secretary.